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CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

East Germany

REPORT

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COUNTRY

Military Activities in Brandenburg and Rathenow

TOPIC

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 11 August 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 25 July 1955, several units of the artillery brigade left the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne (5443) and Brandenburg by road and proceeded southwestward. Judging from the number of windows lit at dusk, the installation was 55 percent occupied. At approximately 0400 on 26 July, the installation was entirely

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2. At about 2200 on 24 July, the units in the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne were alerted. At 0030 on 25 July, the units left with field equipment toward the town. The following columns and vehicles were observed: 120 trucks, 33 tractors with T-34 chassis, 1600 men, 120 20mm howitzers, 3 field kitchens, 6 field offices, and 10 messhalls. The units carried a small number of rear soldiers. After the departure of the units, the installation was occupied by only 4 rear details. At 0400 on 26 July, the unit column was observed to

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3. At 1600 on 20 July, approximately 72 trucks towing 4 field kitchens and 3 M-13 rocket launchers departed through Genthin and proceeded toward Rathenow. Some of the trucks carried personnel and billeting equipment.

At 1930, the column entered

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4. On 20 July, a column of approximately 60 trucks carrying furniture and some 600 soldiers, 3 field kitchens, 2 radio trucks, and 4 repair shop trucks was seen in Rathenow. No guns were observed. The units entered the Kraftfahrer-Kaserne (5443), the Pioneer Kaserne (5442), and the Infanterie Kaserne (5441) in Rathenow.

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1. Comment. Large elements of the 124th Hv How Arty Brig are quite definitely believed to have left the post for exercises. Since no loadings were observed, the units apparently transferred by road, possibly to Altengrabow or to the Brandenburg Forest, northwest of Brandenburg.

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2. Comment. The rear details of the 6th Arty Div, which left the three Wald-Kaserns on 29 July, may have returned to the post. Since the returning units apparently included major elements of the 25th Gds RL Brig, there is reason to believe that units of the brigade, the departure of which had not been observed, had in the meantime crossed the Akernabahn by road.

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